

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to speak in recognition of what has been accomplished by the people of Jamaica as we celebrate its independence. Jamaica has elevated itself from the perils of slavery and oppression to a country of great power and prestige. As we move forward, I am confident that our friendship with Jamaica will continue well into the future.

ALGERIA

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, our nation celebrated our independence, freedom and democracy on the Fourth of July. Another independence day was commemorated one day later on July 5th—that of our friend and ally, Algeria, which celebrated 40 years of independence this year.

President Bush sent his congratulations to President Bouteflicka to mark the occasion, expressing his solidarity with the Algerian people. The President reiterated U.S. support for Algeria's efforts in the war on terror and progress in political and economic reforms for the Algerian people.

Algeria has been an increasingly staunch ally of the U.S. over the years, and has been a particularly helpful friend and ally in our war on terrorism. Algeria was one of the first nations to offer its condolences and assistance in the immediate aftermath of the attacks. In addition, Algeria has cooperated fully with our law enforcement and intelligence agencies as a partner in the global coalition against terrorism. Ambassador Francis X. Taylor, head of the State Department's Counterterrorism Office, praised Algeria's cooperation calling that nation "one of the most tenacious and faithful partners of the United States" which has "cooperated with us in every domain."

As important as Algeria is to us today, it will be increasingly important in the future as we explore liquefied natural gas reserves there to meet our nation's growing energy needs. Algeria has some of the largest natural gas reserves in the world, exporting over four million barrel per day, soon to be five million—the largest exporter in Africa. Algeria could be a prime market for our agricultural products. It is a home to U.S. investment and will be an increasingly important economic partner in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my congratulations to the people of Algeria on the occasion of their forty years of independence and recognize the important contribution that nation is making in the international war on terror, as well as the progress being made towards real and lasting democracy.

IN HONOR OF JOHN JACOBS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, It is with great personal sadness that I rise to pay tribute to my friend John Jacobs, a great friend to San

Francisco's business and conservation communities. John worked passionately to keep San Francisco's economy vital and its environment sound. The former head of the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR) and the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, he passed away on July 15th at 76 years of age.

A native of Philadelphia, John served as a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division during the Battle of the Bulge during World War II. Following the war, he worked for NATO in England and France. He attended New Mexico State University on the GI Bill and received his BS in Business. His college roommate, John Hirten, urged him to come to San Francisco to lead SPUR, which he did for the next twenty years.

John was one of the most influential figures in San Francisco's planning and economic development since the 1960's. Under his leadership, SPUR played a key role in the creation of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area by developing a network of more than 65 conservation and civic-minded organizations. He served as deputy director of SPUR from 1960 to 1968 and as executive director from 1968 to 1981.

He then served as executive director of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce from 1981 to 1988, when he became president of the organization for a year. He played a leading role in resolving the downtown business community's battles with City Hall and neighborhood groups and helped draft guidelines for the treatment of HIV-positive employees.

John was also an avid sailor and expert yachtsman and named champion in several sailboat racing classes. His love for the San Francisco Bay Area was demonstrated by his service on the boards of the Fine Arts Museum, KQED, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, and the San Francisco State University Foundation.

John's service to San Francisco and the Bay Area was a gift to us all. His insistence that the business and conservation communities communicate with and support each other made San Francisco a model for other cities. He was a hero, always vigilant, always willing and able to do battle. To John's lovely wife Shirley, I extend my deepest sympathy and my gratitude to her for sharing her magnificent husband with us.

IN HONOR OF RICK SANCHEZ

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and acknowledge the many accomplishments of Rick Sanchez, whose voice will now be heard on Spanish-language radio in New York and Miami. In a historic arrangement, Mr. Sanchez will be the first host of two shows, in two media markets and in two languages. The Federation of Cuban Musicians in Exile will honor Rick Sanchez at Las Palmas Restaurant on Sunday, July 28th in West New York, New Jersey.

With over 20 years of experience covering major national and international stories, Mr. Sanchez has made a significant and long-lasting contribution in broadcasting. Most notably,

he covered the Contra War in Nicaragua, the uprisings in Haiti, and was one of the first reporters to broadcast live from the scene of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

An accomplished interviewer, he has received many accolades for his work, including the Florida Broadcaster of the Year Award and a special commendation from the White House. He is also a philanthropist, having led the relief efforts to assist victims of Hurricane Andrew in South Miami Dade County.

Rick Sanchez and his parents were exiled from his birthplace, Havana, Cuba, when he was two years old. While attending Moorhead State University on a football scholarship, he was selected from thousands of applicants for a journalism scholarship at the University of Minnesota, awarded by CBS station WCCO-TV in Minneapolis. Following college, he was hired as a reporter at WSVN in South Florida and, at 22, he became the youngest anchor in the market when he became the station's weekend anchor.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Rick Sanchez for his ground breaking achievements in broadcasting and for paving the way for the Hispanic community.

IN MEMORY OF ARIEL MELCHIOR, SR., CO-FOUNDER OF THE DAILY NEWS OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Ariel Melchior Sr., co-founder of the Daily News of the Virgin Islands, died Tuesday night, July 23, 2002 at the Roy L. Schneider Hospital on St. Thomas in my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands. Members of his family were at his bedside at the time of his death. He was 93. Together with the late J. Antonio Jarvis, Melchior started the newspaper on August 1, 1930 and headed the publication for almost 50 years before it was purchased by Gannett Co. Inc. in 1978.

Melchior, Sr. is survived by two sons, Earl and Ariel, Jr.; six daughters, Marjorie Preston, Valerie Wade, Rita Watley, Norma Gomez, Laurel Melchior, and Juel Love; stepchildren George Dudley, Jr. and Rita Grant. A sister, Zelina Petersen, also survives together with many grand and great-grandchildren.

A giant among his fellow men, even though very few are aware of his intense love for his community or of his courage to stand by his decisions, Ariel Melchior, Sr., was a quiet but forceful champion of human rights. Chief among his contributions to his society is the establishment of the Daily News, a newspaper which has become a substantial force in the territory. Appearing on the newsstand on August 1, 1930, the paper was a joint effort of Mr. Melchior and the late Jose Antonio Jarvis, a teacher. Throughout the years, Melchior served on the paper in several positions, including business manager, a post he held for about 10 years.

When Jarvis sold his interest to his partner, Melchior then assumed full ownership and served as editor. Under his guidance, the paper observed almost half a century, never missing one day's publication. It was also